

S.N. 10/047,956
Mark N. Robins et al.
Atty Dkt 10015542-1

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, 8, 11-16 and 21 were pending in the application prior to this response. Claims 1, 3-5, 8 and 11-16 have been canceled herein. Claim 21 remains in the application unchanged. Reexamination and reconsideration are requested.

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I. Rejection of Claims 1, 3-5, 8 and 11-16 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 3-5, 8 and 11-16 stand under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Okuda (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0165108) in view of Yamagata (U.S. Patent 6,003,052).

At the outset, applicants note that the heading of the Examiner's rejection (at the bottom of page 3 of the final Office action) also lists claim 21 as being rejected. The cover sheet for the final Office action, however, indicates that claim 21 is allowed. Further, on page 9 of the final Office action, the Examiner again indicates that claim 21 is allowed (paragraph 4) and provides reasons for allowance in the following paragraph (paragraph 5). Accordingly, it appears that the inclusion of claim 21 in the heading of the rejection on page 3 is in error.

Claims 1, 3-5, 8 and 11-16 have been canceled herein.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

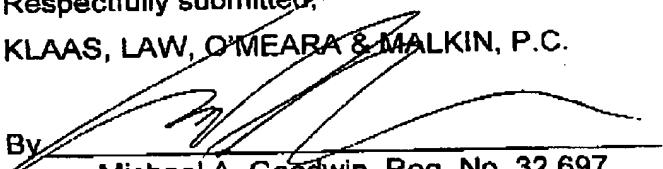
As discussed above, the Examiner, on page 9 of the final Office action, indicates that claim 21 is allowed. Since, after entry of the amendment presented herein, claim 21 will be the only claim pending in the application, it is believed that the amendment clearly places the application in condition for allowance.

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Entry of the amendment presented herein is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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